

Appl. No. 10/671,816
Reply to Office Action of January 12, 2006

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently Amended) A bioerodible implant for treating an inflammation-mediated condition of an eye in an individual, the implant comprising a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent and a bioerodible copolymer ~~without an added release modifier~~, the implant structured to be placed in the vitreous of the eye by being an extruded filament, the implant having [[with]] a weight between about 500 µg and about 1100 µg [[which]] and releases ~~releasing~~ at least about 20% of the agent within about 20 days in vitro.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently amended) The bioerodible implant according to claim 35, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is selected from the group consisting of cortisone, dexamethasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, prednisolone, prednisone, triamcinolone and mixtures thereof.

38. (Currently amended) The bioerodible implant according to claim 35, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is dexamethasone.

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39. (Currently amended) The bioerodible implant according to claim 35, wherein the implant releases at least about 30% of the agent after about 20 days in vivo.

40-41 (Canceled)

42. (Currently amended) The bioerodible implant according to claim 35, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent comprises about 50 to about 80 weight percent of the implant.

43. (Currently amended) The bioerodible implant according to claim 42, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent comprises about 70% by weight of the implant.

44. (Currently amended) The bioerodible implant according to claim 35, wherein the bioerodible copolymer is a polyester.

45. (Currently amended) The bioerodible implant according to claim 44, wherein the bioerodible copolymer is polylactic acid polyglycolic acid (PLGA) copolymer.

46. (Currently amended) The bioerodible implant according to claim 35, wherein the ~~inflammation-mediated~~ inflammation-mediated condition of the eye to be treated is selected from the group consisting of uveitis, macular edema, macular degeneration, retinal detachment, ocular tumors, fungal infections, viral infections, multifocal choroiditis, diabetic uveitis, proliferative vitreoretinopathy (PVR), sympathetic ophthalmia, Vogt Koyanagi-Harada (VKH) syndrome, histoplasmosis, and uveal diffusion.

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47. (Currently amended) The ~~[[method]]~~ bioerodible implant according to claim 46, wherein the ~~inflammation-mediated~~ inflammation-mediated condition of the eye to be treated is uveitis.

48-50 (Canceled)

51. (Currently amended) The bioerodible implant according to claim 35, wherein the individual whose eye is to be treated is a human.

52. (Currently amended) An implant for treating an inflammation-mediated condition of the eye in an individual, comprising a solid body comprising particles of a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent entrapped within a bioerodible copolymer, the body structured for placement into the vitreous of the eye by being an extruded filament, the solid body having ~~[[with]]~~ a weight between about 500 μ g and about 1100 μ g ~~[[which]]~~ and releases ~~releasing~~ at least about 30% of the agent within about 20 days in vitro.

53-54 (Cancelled)

55. (Previously presented) The implant according to claim 52, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is selected from the group consisting of cortisone, dexamethasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, prednisolone, prednisone, triamcinolone and mixtures thereof.

56. (Previously presented) The implant according to claim 52, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is dexamethasone.

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57-60 (Canceled)

61. (Previously presented) The implant according to claim 52, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent comprises about 50 to about 80 weight percent of the implant.

62. (Previously presented) The implant according to claim 61, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent comprises about 70% by weight of the implant.

63. (Previously presented) The implant according to claim 61, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent comprises about 50% by weight of the implant.

64. (Previously presented) The implant according to claim 52, wherein the bioerodible copolymer is a polyester.

65. (Previously presented) The implant of claim 52, wherein the bioerodible copolymer is polylactic acid polyglycolic acid (PLGA) copolymer.

66. (Currently amended) The implant according to claim 52, wherein the ~~inflammatory-mediated~~ inflammatory-mediated condition of the eye to be treated is selected from the group consisting of uveitis, macular edema, macular degeneration, retinal detachment, ocular tumors, fungal infections, viral infections, multifocal choroiditis, diabetic uveitis, proliferative vitreoretinopathy (PVR), sympathetic ophthalmia, Vogt Koyanagi-Harada (VKH) syndrome, histoplasmosis, and uveal diffusion.

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67. (Previously presented) The implant according to claim 66, wherein the inflammation-mediated condition of the eye to be treated is uveitis.

68-81 (Cancelled)

82. (New claim) A bioerodible implant for treating an inflammation-mediated condition of an eye in an individual, the implant comprising a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent and a bioerodible copolymer, the implant structured to be placed in the vitreous of the eye by being an extruded filament, the implant having a weight of about 250-5000 μ g and releasing at least about 20% of the agent within about 20 days in vitro.

83. (New claim) The bioerodible implant according to claim 82, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is selected from the group consisting of cortisone, dexamethasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, prednisolone, prednisone, triamcinolone and mixtures thereof.

84. (New claim) The bioerodible implant according to claim 82, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is dexamethasone.

85. (New claim) The bioerodible implant according to claim 82, wherein the implant releases at least about 30% of the agent after about 20 days in vivo.

86. (New claim) The bioerodible implant according to claim 82, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent comprises about 50 to about 80 weight percent of the implant.

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87. (New claim) The bioerodible implant according to claim 86, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent comprises about 70% by weight of the implant.

88. (New claim) The bioerodible implant according to claim 82, wherein the bioerodible copolymer is a polyester.

89. (New claim) The bioerodible implant according to claim 88, wherein the bioerodible copolymer is polylactic acid polyglycolic acid (PLGA) copolymer.

90. (New claim) The bioerodible implant according to claim 82, wherein the inflammation-mediated condition of the eye to be treated is selected from the group consisting of uveitis, macular edema, macular degeneration, retinal detachment, ocular tumors, fungal infections, viral infections, multifocal choroiditis, diabetic uveitis, proliferative vitreoretinopathy (PVR), sympathetic ophthalmia, Vogt Koyanagi-Harada (VKH) syndrome, histoplasmosis, and uveal diffusion.

91. (New claim) The bioerodible implant according to claim 90, wherein the inflammation-mediated condition of the eye to be treated is uveitis.

92. (New claim) The bioerodible implant according to claim 82, wherein the individual whose eye is to be treated is a human.